

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12748 151643Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 NIC-01 OMB-01 NEA-10

IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 EB-11

AF-10 SCI-06 SCEM-02 INT-08 EURE-00 DRC-01 /187 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3019

INFO USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UR US XF

SUBJ: LECTURER COMMENTS ON ME CRISIS AND DETENTE

1. SUMMARY: MAJOR PORTION OF PUBLIC LECTURE ON OCTOBER 15 WAS DEVOTED TO MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT AND ITS RELATION TO U.S.- U.S.S. R. DETENTE. SPEAKER TOOK LINE THAT RELAXATION OF WORLD TENSIONS HAS REDUCED THREAT OF U.S.- SOVIET CONFRONTATION OVER INTERNATIONAL CRISES SUCH AS ME CONFLICT; HE SOUGHT TO PLAY DOWN POTENTIAL DISRUPTIVE AFFECT OF ME WAR ON U.S. - SOVIET RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN COURSE OF THREE-HOUR LECTURE AND QUESTION PERIOD AT "ZNANIYE" HALL ON CURRENT WORLD SITUATION OCTOBER 15, V. GLADYSHEV, FROM MFA'S INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, INTERWOVE COMMENTS ON THE PROGRESS TOWARD U.S. - SOVIET DETENTE WITH ME SITUATION, U.S. INVOLVEMENT THEREIN, AND IMPACT ON DETENTE.

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 12748 151643Z

3. HIS LENGTHY, POSITIVE RECITAL OF U.S.- SOVIET ECONOMIC CONTACTS SINCE 1972 CONCLUDED WITH OBSERVATION THAT GROWING ECONOMIC TIES ARE HELPING TO STRENGTHEN POLITICAL DETENTE.

4. WITHIN THIS CONTEXT, GLADYSHEV TOOK UP ME SITUATION. HE ASSERTED THAT U.S. ROLE IN CURRENT WAR CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH 1967, WHEN U.S. HAD PARTICIPATED DIRECTLY ON ISRAELI SIDE. IN CURRENT CRISIS, U.S. OFFICIAL STATEMENTS HAVE FOCUSED ON SEEKING PEACE AND A JUST SETTLEMENT IN ME. TO SUPPORT HIS OBSERVATIONS SPEAKER READ EXCERPTS ON ME FROM PRESIDENT NIXON'S REMARKS ON OCTOBER 9 TO U.S. SCIENTISTS, SECRETARY'S OCTOBER 8 STATEMENT INDICATING THAT DETENTE HAS MADE CRISES LESS LIKELY TO RESULT IN WAR, AND MC CLOSKEY STATEMENT ABOUT IMPORTANCE OF SEEKING SOLUTION TO CURRENT CRISIS INSTEAD OF FOCUSING ON WHO STARTED HOSTILITIES.

5. ON ME ITSELF, SPEAKER SAID THAT OVER LAST SIX YEARS ARAB SITUATION HAS IMPROVED. HE CITED DEVELOPMENT OF GREATER ARAB UNITY AND NOTED BREZHNEV LETTER TO BOUMEDIENE (NOT YET PUBLISHED HERE) ENCOURAGING UNIFIED ARAB SUPPORT FOR EGYPT AND SYRIA. HE ASSERTED THAT ISRAEL IS INCREASINGLY ISOLATED, MENTIONING SEVERANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BY AFRICAN STATES AND AUSTRIAN DECISION TO CLOSE THAT SCHOENAU TRANSIT CAMP. AND HE SAID THE EMERGING ENERGY CRISIS COMBINED WITH THE GROWING AWARENESS OF THEIR POWER BY THE ARAB OIL PRODUCERS, WAS BRINGING A CHANGE IN THE APPROACH OF WESTERN LEADERS - INCLUDING PRESIDENT NIXON-- TO THE ME QUESTION.

6. AFTER NOTING WESTERN PRESS REPORTS THAT U.S.S. R. HAS BUILT AN "AIR BRIDGE" TO SUPPLY ARABS, LECTURER GAVE MATTER-OF-FACT TREATMENT TO U.S. SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL. HE OBSERVED THAT U.S. HAD CALLED FOR SC MEETING AND ASKED FOR RETURN TO 1967 CEASE FIRE LINE AND THAT U.S.- ISRAELI AGREEMENTS REQUIRE U.S. TO REPLACE ISRAELI PLANE LOSSES (F-4S) ONE FOR ONE. HE ALSO MADE POINT THAT ZIONIST CIRCLES IN U.S. ARE POWERFUL FORCE WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 12748 151643Z

SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC POWER AND ABILITY TO CONTROL MEDIA. THESE GROUPS, HE SAID, ARE DOING UTMOST TO MOBILIZE SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL, INCLUDING RECRUITMENT OF U.S. AND EUROPEAN PILOTS AND TECHNICIANS.

7. IN SUMMING UP SITUATION, HOWEVER, GLADYSHEV TOOK POSITIVE VIEW ON ME AND DETENTE. HE SAID THAT IN CONNECTION WITH ME THERE ARE CONTRADICTORY ATTITUDES

IN THE U.S. SOME VOICES SAY THAT THE CRISIS HAS ALREADY BROUGHT DETENTE TO END, WHILE OTHERS EMPHASIZE SOLIDITY OF THE U.S.- U.S.S.R. RELATIONSHIP (HE INDICATED THE LATTER IS THE CORRECT VIEW). REFERRING TO SECRETARY'S STATEMENT OF OCTOBER 8 THAT "DETENTE CANNOT SURVIVE IRRESPONSIBILITY", HE REBUTTED SOME COMMENTATORS' VIEW THAT THIS WAS WARNING TO U.S.S. R. BY NOTING THAT U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE CHARACTERIZED SOVIET ACTIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS RESPONSIBLE.

8. OTHER POINTS MADE BY LECTURER:

A. SITUATION IN ISRAEL ITSELF IS COMPLEX; ELECTIONS ARE COMING UP AND THERE ARE EXTREMIST FORCES THERE.

B. ISRAEL CANNOT SUSTAIN WAR FOR MORE THAN 15 OR 20 DAYS.

C. QUESTION: THEY SANK OUR SHIP, WE ONLY ISSUED DECLARATION; WHY DO WE NOT DO MORE? ANSWER: WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE US DO - FIGHT?

D. QUESTION: HAVE SOVIET PERSONNEL BEEN WITHDRAWN? ANSWER: YES; WE ARE NOT INVOLVED IN THE FIGHTING.

E. QUESTION: REPORTS SAY US AIRCRAFT CARRIERS ARE BEING MOVED IN; ARE WE DISCUSSING SITUATION WITH AMERICANS?

ANSWER: YES, NIXON AND BREZHNEV ARE COMMUNICATING THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, THE HOT LINE IS NOT BEING USED, THERE IS NOT NEED TO OVERDRAMATIZE THE SITUATION.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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